

GODMANCHESTER

Urban District Council.

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# REPORT

UPON THE SANITARY CONDITION

OF THE

Borough of Godmanchester,

FOR THE YEAR 1923,

BY

*CHARLES E. HICKS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.*

*MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.*

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LONDON :

George & Co., Printers, High Street.



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HUNTINGDON :

COOPER & Co., PRINTERS, HIGH STREET.

# TO THE GODMANCHESTER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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GENTLEMEN,

The Ministry of Health require information on certain subjects. This information is embodied in this report to save extra printing and time.

The population in 1923 was 2046.

The soil proper is gravel, and that of the higher ground Oxford Clay.

The population is practically all connected with agricultural pursuits. The only manufactory being a Flour Mill. The health is satisfactory.

## **Vital Statistics.**

The Births registered were 34, 20 males and 14 females, of these 1 male and 1 female were illegitimate, this gives a birth-rate of 16.61 per 1000 persons living. The Birth-rate for England and Wales is 19.7 per 1000.

The Deaths registered were 27, 11 males and 16 females, an average of 13.2 per 1000 persons living, of these 3 were over 70, 7 over 80 and 1 of 94. The Death-rate for England and Wales is 11.6 per 1000.

## **Infantile Mortality.**

One child died under one year of age.

Poor Law Medical relief is utilised to a fair extent, principally amongst the older inhabitants, also the Huntingdon County Hospital is used both by Out and In-door patients.

## **Water Supply.**

The Town is supplied by wells but the water in many of them is not fit for drinking, and wells run dry during the summer.



I should like the Council seriously to consider the question of waterworks so as to insure a good and constant supply to the Town.

### **Drainage and Sewerage.**

Sanitary conditions of the District remain in much the same condition as in previous years. There are 250 pail closets and 20 water closets.

### **Inspections.**

During the year I have made inspections of the district, accompanied by your Inspector of Nuisances.

Nuisance Inspection is embodied in the Sanitary Officer's Report, *vide* page 4.

### **Scavenging.**

Refuse is collected in an open cart and ploughed into land by farmers at an annual cost of £360.

### **Lodging Houses.**

There is one registered and properly inspected.

### **Milk Supply.**

The milk supply is wholesome. The Dairies and Cow-sheds are generally in good condition. There are many acres of commons and grazing land which is conducive to the healthiness of the cows.

All Dairies are now registered.

### **Food Supply.**

No samples of food were sent for analysis.

There are three registered Slaughter-houses in the district and all are clean and periodically inspected.

### Infectious and other Diseases.

The following were notified under the Act:—

Pneumonia	...	...	1	
Tuberculosis	...	...	1	Pulmonary and fatal.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	2	both treated in Isolation Hospital.
Erysipelas	...	...	2	
Chicken Pox	...	...	1	
Total	...		7	

### Cancer.

There were 4 deaths from Cancer during the year.

### Jaundice.

There has been a slight epidemic of Infective Jaundice during the year.

### Isolation Hospital.

The District now send cases of Infectious Disease to the Huntingdon Joint Hospital.

### Housing.

House accommodation for the labouring classes is of a mixed character. The old thatched cottages are gradually being re-placed by more modern dwelling-houses, and the house accommodation is generally improving. There is plenty of open space about the houses, the cleanliness of the surroundings in some places is not of a high class, the yards being imperfectly paved and gravelled. The gravelling of the yards show some improvement.

HUNTINGDON,	CHARLES E. HICKS,
1924.	<i>Medical Officer of Health,</i>
	<i>Godmanchester Urban District Council.</i>



### Sanitary Inspector's Report, 1923.

Number of Inspections made ...	...	140
Number of Notices served ...	...	78
(Informal 68      Statutory 10).		
Complaints received...	...	Total No. of 11
Pool, ditch, gutter, watercourse ...	...	No. inspected 9
		Nuisances abated 5
Animals improperly kept ...	...	No. inspected 8
		Nuisances abated 8
Privy, urinal, cesspool, ashpit ...	...	No. inspected 30
		Nuisances abated 30
Drain, Drain-traps, etc., etc., ...	...	No. inspected 75
		Nuisances abated 15
House, or part thereof, overcrowded		No. inspected 4
Offensive accumulations ...	...	No. inspected 23
		Nuisances abated 23
Other insanitary conditions ...	...	No. inspected 6
		Nuisances abated 6
Lodging houses ...	...	No. registered 1
		No. of inspections 4
Slaughter houses ...	...	No. licensed or 3
		registered
		No. of inspections 15
Public Health Act, 1875 ...	...	No. houses cleaned 2
		and limewashed
Infectious Diseases ...	...	Houses affected with 3
		Houses inspected 3
		No. of inspections 6
		Houses disinfected 3
		Disinfectant used
		Formalin
Ashbins ...	...	New provided 50

Water Supply	...	...	...	Samples taken for analysis	1
				„ condemned	1
				Wells cleansed, repaired, etc.	3

#### FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

Workshops	...	...	...	No. on register (including bakehouses)	9
Bakehouses	...	...	...	No. on register	4
Home work	...	...	...	No. of outworkers	1
				No. of houses	1

G. STEVENS,  
*Sanitary Inspector.*



### Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders.

#### Dairymen, Cowkeepers and Purveyors of Milk (Milk Sellers)—

No. in District	...	...	...	...	...	25
No. Registered	...	...	...	...	...	25
No. of Inspections of Premises	...	...	...	...	...	50
No. of Inspections during Milking Time	...	...	...	...	...	30
No. of Premises requiring Whitewashing, Cleansing, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	9
No. in which requirements of Sanitary Authority were carried out	...	...	...	...	...	9
No. of Premises requiring Structural or Sanitary Improvements	...	...	...	...	...	3
No. in which requirements of Sanitary Authority were carried out	...	...	...	...	...	3
No. of Premises with Well Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	25

#### Dairymen, Cowkeepers and Purveyors of Milk—(Butter and Cheese Makers)—

No. in District	...	...	...	...	...	13
No. Inspection of Premises	...	...	...	...	...	24

G. STEVENS,  
Sanitary Inspector.

March 2nd, 1924.

## APPENDICES.

## HOUSING CONDITIONS.

## STATISTICS.

Year ending 31st December, 1923.

## 1.—GENERAL.

(1)	Area	...	...	...	...	...	4906 Acres
(2)	Estimated population	...	...	...	...	...	2046
(3)	General death-rate	...	...	...	...	...	13 2
(4)	Death-rate from tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	·5
(5)	Infantile mortality	...	...	...	...	...	·5
(6)	Number of dwelling-houses of all classes	...	...	...	...	...	419
(7)	Number of working-class dwelling-houses	...	...	...	...	...	312
(8)	Rateable value	..	...	...	...	...	£8322
(9)	Sum represented by penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£34 1s. 4d.

## 2.—UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES.

## I.—Inspection.

(1)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	..	...	50
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	...	...	...	...	24
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	—
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	12

## II.—Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	...	12
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# Causes of Death in the Borough of Godmanchester, 1923.

				Males.	Females.
All Causes (Civilians only)	...	...	...	11	16
1. Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...
2. Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...
3. Measles	...	...	...	...	...
4. Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...
5. Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...
6. Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	..
7. Influenza	...	...	...	...	...
8. Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...
9. Meningococcal Meningitis	...	..	...	...	...
10. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	1	...
11. Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...
12. Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	...	...	2	2
13. Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	...
14. Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...
15. Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.	...	...	...	1	...
16. Heart Disease	..	...	...	...	5
17. Arterio-sclerosis	...	..	...	...	...
18. Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...
19. Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...
20. Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...
21. Ulcer of Stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	...	...
22. Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...
23. Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	...	1	...
24. Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	...
25. Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...
26. Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...
27. Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	...	...	...	...	...
28. Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth.	...	...	...	1	...
29. Suicide	...	...	...	...	...
30. Other Deaths from Violence	...	...	...	1	1
31. Other Defined Diseases	...	...	...	4	8



**Ten Years Fatal Cases of:**

Year.	Cancer.	Phthisis and Tubercular Disease.
1914	5	3
1915	5	5
1916	3	2
1917	4	5
1918	2	1
1919	5	3
1920	1	2
1921	1	4
1922	0	3
1923	4	1
	30	29







